

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OPIC-12 EB-11 COME-00 L-03 TRSE-00

AGR-20 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DRC-01 /079 W

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FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6454

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.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EIND, EAGO, HO, US

SUBJECT: DECREE 103 - INTERNATIONAL WOOD PRODUCTS

REF: TEGUCIGALPA 0870

SUMMARY: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IS FORWARDED TO THE DEPARTMENT CONCERNING IWP AND ITS PROBLEM WITH OPIC. COMPANY AS INDICATED REFTTEL QUITE SELF-CONFIDENT OF IMPROVED CONDITIONS FOR ITS OPERATIONS UNDER DECREE 103 FROM THOSE PRIOR WORKING CONDITIONS. END SUMMARY.

1. FEB. 26 LWE STANLEY CALLED ON ECONOFF AND REPORTED PROGRESS CONCERNING OPERATION HIS FINISHED PRODUCT EXPORTING OPERATIONS. STANLEY STATED HE HAD TWO PROBLEMS TO PRESENT TO REYES OF COHDEFOR.

2. FIRST PROBLEM INVOLVED WITH RED TAPE ON RECEIVING PAYMENT FOR EXPORTS. BECAUSE IWP EXPORTS SMALL LOTS FREQUENTLY AND EACH LOT MUST BE PRESENTED FOR PAYMENT TO COHDEFOR IWP IS FACED WITH CONSTANT TRIPS TO MAKE PRESENTATION TO REYES IN TEGUCIGALPA. REYES MAINTAINING CENTRALIZED CONTROL IS PROBABLE RESULT THAT HE WISHED TO AVOID STICKY FINGERS BECOMING INVOLVED WITH FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS WITH COHDEFOR.

3. SECOND, PROBLEMS DERIVED FROM FACT THAT IWP WANTS TO BE ABLE TO SELL DRIED AND SIZED LUMBER INTO THE LOCAL

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MARKET. HIS PRESENT PERMIT DOES NOT ALLOW THIS. HE HAS

THIS LUMBER BECAUSE IT IS NOT SUITED FOR THE FINISHED
PRODUCTS HE IS EXPORTING TO THE U.S.

4. ON BOTH ABOVE PROBLEMS STANLEY MADE PRESENTATIONS ON
FEB. 27 WITH RESPONSIVENESS INDICATED ON THE PART OF
REYES. IN ADDITION REYES INDICATED THAT APPROVAL IS
COMPLETE ON A IWP REQUEST FOR CUTTING RIGHTS.
SINCE BEGINNING OPERATIONS IN MID-1973 IWP HAS HAD
DIFFICULTIES OBTAINING PROPER QUALITY SAW MILL LUMBER.
ITS PRESENT OUTPUT COULD BE DOUBLED IF THIS WERE SOLVED.
THE SOLUTION REACHED WITH COHDEFOR WAS TO ISSUE TO IWP
CUTTING AUTHORITY SO THAT THE COMPANY COULD CONTRACT WITH
A SAW MILL FOR ITS OWN SOURCE OF SUPPLY. IWP WILL MOVE
QUICKLY TO UTILIZE THIS NEW AUTHORITY.
SANCHEZ

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